



TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HURON

REPORT

Item No.

REPORT TO: Reeve Vincent and Members of Council
PREPARED BY: Sean McGhee
DATE: 05/02/2018
SUBJECT: Wingham Landfill Offsite CAZ Investigation
ATTACHMENTS:

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Council of the Township of North Huron hereby receives the report of the Director of Public Works, dated February 5, 2018 regarding offsite contamination investigation at the Wingham Landfill for information purposes;

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

There are stringent monitoring and reporting requirements associated with the Wingham Landfill Site. These requirements, as outlined in the site Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA), include monitoring of groundwater in numerous locations around the perimeter of the site.

Samples taken for analysis during the 2012 to 2015 reporting period revealed parameters that were outside of the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) reasonable use guideline (RUG) limits. This included Dissolved Organic Carbon, Arsenic, Iron, and Manganese. The monitoring wells that are showing impact from the landfill are along Reid Road and are indicative of a northeast groundwater flow direction.

Additional wells were installed on the opposite side of Reid Road in March of 2016. Samples taken from these wells confirmed that the landfill leachate is impacting the groundwater off-site. A letter from RJ Burnside outlining these issues and identifying proposed courses of action was sent to the Township of North Huron on May 31, 2017. The letter, which was forwarded to the MOECC, recommended the following:

1. Request approval of the adjacent property owner for access to the property for the purpose of installing three monitoring wells. These monitoring wells are critical in determining the extent and direction of the off-site influence.
2. Continue sampling with the intent of determining the limit of the Contamination Attenuation Zone (CAZ);
3. Once the limit of the CAZ is determined, commence with the process of negotiation with the property owner for water rights, and;
4. Enter into discussion with the MOECC with the intention of adding the impacted area into the existing Landfill ECA.

Correspondence was received from the MOECC in August of 2017 acknowledging receipt of the letter from RJ Burnside. Ministry Hydrogeologists concurred with the recommended course of action, including the installation of the monitoring wells.

DISCUSSION

RJ Burnside is prepared to commission the installation of the sampling wells with the intention of including a spring 2018 sampling of the new sites into the overall monitoring program. Numerous sets of samples will be collected over the coming months in order to confirm the need for and establish the limit of the Contamination Attenuation Zone (CAZ).

Following discussion with Council, the property owner will be approached in order to secure permission to install the wells and monitor the groundwater quality on the proposed property.

Further information with regard to groundwater quality and the establishment of a proposed CAZ will be brought forward to Council as it becomes available.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This issue will have direct impact on the operating budget in 2018 and future operating years. The anticipated cost for the installation of the three monitoring wells and associated investigation is approximately \$26,000.⁰⁰ and has been included in the draft 2018 Budget. Monitoring costs associated with the Wingham Landfill are budgeted at \$22,800.⁰⁰ and will continue annually.

Once the CAZ is determined and approved by the MOECC, there will be costs incurred by the Township associated with the purchase of either groundwater rights or land.

In the event that it is determined that the influence of the landfill on groundwater quality extends beyond the proposed well sites, additional costs associated with establishment of CAZ boundaries will be incurred.

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

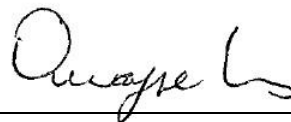
Discussion and negotiation with Property Owners will be required once the CAZ is identified and approved by the MOECC.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This project relates to **Goal No. 4** of the Strategic Plan in that the administration is fiscally responsible and strives for operational excellence, and **Goal No. 5** in that our natural environment is valued and protected.



Sean McGhee, Director of Public Works



Dwayne Evans, CAO